

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Page 4, lines 15-25, replace the paragraphs with the following:

Suitably fastened to a planar face 26 of the jaw 22 is a first conductive sealing electrode 28. Electrode 28 may be integral to the jaw 22. As can best be seen in the cross-sectional view of Figure 2, the jaw/electrode 28 has obliquely extending sidewalls relative to a width axis of said jaw forming a ~~an inwardly and upwardly sloping~~ recess 30 whose arcuate sides converge to form a central, longitudinally extending notch 32 of rectangular cross-section. The exposed surfaces of the tapered arcuate recess and the notch are uninsulated.

The jaw 24 of the forceps half 14 has an electrode 34 either fastened to jaw surface 36 or integral with the jaw 24. As can best be seen from the cross-sectional view of Figure 3, the electrode 34 may have a generally arcuate or beveled cross-section with obliquely extending sidewalls forming a raised dome 36 in a central zone that is adapted to fit within and conform to the recess 30 of the electrode 28. A cut electrode 42 is mounted to and extends along the length of the electrode 34, and is isolated from electrode 34 by insulating plastic or ceramic 40. As can be seen from Figure 3, the strip 40 is generally centrally disposed at the crown of the arcuate dome 36.

Page 8, lines 15-21, replace the paragraph with the following:

Referring to the cross-sectional view of Figure 8, the lower jaw 89 is raised and includes planar sidewalls that extend obliquely to the width axis of jaw 89 leading to a longitudinally extending slot 92. Disposed in this slot is an insulator 93, preferably of ceramic that supports a metal cutting electrode element 94. A longitudinal cavity 95 runs along the inner surface of the recessed jaw 90 and it is lined with a thin layer of insulating material 96. By providing this insulated surface, the top and bottom jaws exhibit generally equal tissue-contact areas important to providing effective tissue sealing. Planar sidewalls extend obliquely to the width axis of the jaw 90 to conform to the raised structure of jaw 89 and lead to the cavity 95.